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Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty

Letter dated 30 November 1999 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Mission of the Russian Federation to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit the text of the statement by the official representative of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation of 23 November 1999 on the occasion of the submission by the President of the Russian Federation of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty for ratification in the State Duma (see annex).

I should be grateful if the text of this letter and its annex could be circulated as a document of the General Assembly under agenda item 85.

(*Signed*) Gennadiy **Gatilov**
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Annex

Statement by the official representative of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Republic of 23 November 1999

Mr. B. N. Yeltsin, the President of the Russian Federation, submitted for ratification by the State Duma of the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty signed by the Russian Federation on 24 September 1996. It is hoped that the State Duma will give favourable consideration to this question in the very near future.

This action by the President of the Russian Federation once again demonstrated the consistent policy of the Russian leadership aimed at strengthening the nuclear non-proliferation regime, supporting strategic stability in the world and prohibiting the spread and upgrading of nuclear weapons.

In accordance with the commitments which it assumed, the Russian Federation has not allowed nuclear testing since October 1990 and does not intend to resume such testing, provided of course that other nuclear States follow suit.

Moscow is convinced that the earliest entry into force of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty will be both in the national interests of the Russian Federation and, equally, in the interests of the entire world community.